



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 28, 2003

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## **EAST COUNTY WATER MAY BE TAINTED** ***County Health Director Recommends Precaution***

Residents of part of East County must treat their water before consuming it County health officials say. In Crest, the Cedar fire destroyed two storage tanks and water in one remaining tank may be contaminated.

Disinfecting water is mandatory for people who live in Crest, Shadow Mountain and the southwest area of Crest. Residents should boil water before drinking or disinfect by using liquid chlorine bleach. Bring water to a rolling boil and let it cool before consuming it. Persons who live in Blossom Valley, Flinn Springs, Chocolate Summit Road, Dunbar Lane and Rios Canyon Road are advised to disinfect their water:

"Because the water quality cannot be assured, these measures will destroy any germs that are present," said Dr. Nancy Bowen, San Diego County's public health officer.

Padre Dam Municipal Water District plans to have a water truck with drinking water at Crest Elementary School, 2000 Suncrest Blvd.

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## **Formula for Disinfecting Water**

1. Strain water through a clean cloth
2. Add eight drops of unscented household chlorine bleach per one gallon of water. If water is cloudy, double the amount of bleach.
3. Let water stand 30 minutes. If you can detect a slight chlorine odor, water is safe. If not, repeat the bleach process and let stand another 15 minutes.